



Base Realignment and Closure

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Project surpasses 3 million man-hours without lost-time incident

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The Base Realignment and Closure project to expand and renovate Brooke Army Medical Center has moved into its final year of construction, having reached a new safety milestone.

Since excavation work began in March 2009, more than three-million man-hours have been logged on the project without any worker suffering an accident that required time away from the job.

A luncheon involving all 2,000 construction workers and office staff members associated with the project was held at the construction site Nov. 9 to mark the achievement.

The project's safety record stands out when compared to data for the construction industry as a whole. According to data from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, in 2009 there were 4.2 injury cases for every 100 full-time workers in the construction industry and 1.6 cases of days away from work for every 100 full-time workers in this industry.

The prime contractor for the construction is a joint venture involving Clark Construction and Hunt Construction Group and the project is being overseen by the Fort Worth District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Sid Jordan, CEO Northern/Southern Region for Clark Construction, and Col. Richard Muraski, commander of the Fort Worth District, addressed the audience and praised the workforce's commitment to safety. Muraski also noted the significance of the project, pointing out that officials at the highest levels of the Pentagon are following its progress.

BAMC's expansion involves construction of a seven-story, 760,000-square-foot addition that will provide space for 200 more beds, a Level 1 trauma center, operating rooms, clinical and administrative space, and an extension of BAMC's internationally acclaimed burn center.

A central energy plant and a 5,000-space parking garage are also being built. More than 300,000 square feet of space in the existing hospital is being renovated. When completed in 2011, the complex will absorb the inpatient and civilian trauma care services currently provided at Wilford Hall Medical Center. A new Wilford Hall replacement facility is being built to focus on outpatient surgical and clinical services.

Sustainability is being incorporated throughout the project, which is being completed according to standards of the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design green building program administered by the U.S. Green Building Council.

This program promotes improved environmental and human health performance through the use of designs and materials that produce energy savings, water efficiency, carbon dioxide emissions reduction, and improved indoor environmental quality.